NEWS RELEASE

MS Dept. of Marine Resources 1141 Bayview Ave., Biloxi 39530



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

16-34-MMS May 20, 2016 4124 Contact: Melissa Scallan Phone: 228-523-

MDMR offers courtesy TED inspections

BILOXI, Miss. – Officials with the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources said Friday that Marine Patrol officers will perform courtesy inspections of shrimp boats to make sure the Turtle Excluder Device is installed properly.

"With shrimp season beginning soon, we want to make sure that all shrimpers are equipped with approved TEDs," Marine Patrol Chief Keith Davis said. "If a shrimper has any question about the device or the way it is installed, he should call us and we will inspect it."

Federal regulations require that any shrimp trawler operating in federal or state waters must have an approved TED installed in each net that is rigged for fishing.

According to regulation 50 CFR 223.206, "a net is rigged for fishing if it is in the water or if it is shackled, tied or otherwise connected to any trawl door or board, or to any tow rope, cable, pole or extension, either on board or attached in any manner to the shrimp trawler."

Anyone who would like a Marine Patrol officer to inspect the TED on a boat should call 228-523-4134.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources is dedicated to enhancing, protecting and conserving marine interests of the state by managing all marine life, public trust wetlands, adjacent uplands and waterfront areas to provide for the optimal commercial, recreational, educational and economic uses of these resources consistent with environmental concerns and social changes. Visit the DMR online at dmr.ms.gov.